

Introduction to the Minimum Essential Coverage Notice

What's the purpose of this notice?

This notice accompanies IRS Form 1095-B (Health Coverage). It informs people with Medicare Part A (Hospital Coverage) that their coverage is considered minimum essential coverage.

This notice is two pages printed on white paper. Your IRS Form 1095-B will come with this notice.

Who will get this notice?

Medicare mails this notice to people under the age of 65 with Medicare Part A, those who enrolled in Part A for the first time in [2015], and those who had Part A coverage for part of the year.

How often does Medicare mail these notices?

This notice is mailed annually between December and January.

What should people do next?

People who get IRS Form 1095-B should keep it with their other important tax information, like any IRS Form 1099 or W-2 they may receive (if applicable).

People who want more information about Medicare coverage should:

- Visit [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov).
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

People can reference CMS Product No. 11865 when calling Medicare with questions about this notice.



<BENEFICIARY FULL NAME>
<ADDRESS>
<CITY STATE ZIP>

HICN <1234>
<file creation date>

Important [2015] tax information: Keep this for your records Form 1095-B (Health Coverage)

Why am I getting a Form 1095-B, Health Coverage?

CMS is sending a Form 1095-B to all individuals under the age of 65 with Medicare Part A, those who enrolled in Medicare Part A for the first time in [2015], or had Medicare Part A coverage for part of [2015]. The Affordable Care Act requires people to have health coverage that meets certain standards, also called minimum essential coverage. An individual without minimum essential coverage can claim an exemption or make a payment with their tax return.

Medicare Part A coverage (including coverage through a Medicare Advantage plan) **is minimum essential coverage.**

Form 1095-B provides information that you may need to complete your Federal income tax return. We've also given this information to the IRS.

What do I need to do?

- If you had Part A health coverage for all 12 months of [2015], you'll just need to check a box on your Federal income tax return indicating you had minimum essential coverage.
- If you had health coverage other than Part A during [2015], check with your coverage provider to see if that plan's coverage was minimum essential coverage.
- If you didn't have Part A coverage or other minimum essential coverage for all 12 months of [2015], and you don't qualify for an exemption from the requirement to have coverage, you may have to pay a fee when you file your taxes.

Keep this Form 1095-B with your other important tax information, like any Form 1099 or W-2 you may receive (if applicable). You do not need to send this form to the IRS when you file your income tax return.

Get help & more information.

For more information, visit Medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.



The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services doesn't discriminate in its programs and activities. To request this notice in an alternative format, call 1-800-MEDICARE or email AltFormatRequest@cms.hhs.gov.

**Para obtener información en español, llame GRATIS al 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).
Los usuarios de TTY deben llamar al 1-877-486-2048.**

